

# The Messenger

A Quarterly from

GIBAULT SCHOOL FOR BOYS

Terre Haute, Ind.

SPONSORED BY THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS OF INDIANA

VOL. NO. 18

SUMMER, 1978

**TO OUR READERS:** For almost two years we have been working to improve our mailing list. You are now receiving the first **Messenger** mailed with our new system. We know there will be some "bugs" for a while, so we ask your help. If there is any error on your mailing label, please return it to us with the corrections. Thanks.

We hope that you like the **Messenger's** "new look." It costs no more to print and we think everything will be clearer and easier to read. Any comments or suggestions are appreciated.

## GROUND BROKEN FOR SHERER HALL

On a bright, sunny Wednesday afternoon in May, a short, informal ceremony marked another big milestone for Gibault School: the construction of Sherer Hall officially began. A small but enthusiastic group of well-wishers applauded as Forrest and Hazel Sherer turned the first shovelfuls of dirt for Gibault's fourth and final new residence hall.

Sherer Hall will replace Chartrand Hall (see back page) and when completed will provide safe, modern housing for Gibault's 10 and 11 year old boys.

Brother Thomas Balthazor, Gibault's Director, expressed his deep appreciation to all of Gibault's friends who have helped make Sherer Hall a reality. He mentioned that construction bids were much higher than everyone had anticipated, but he was confident that Gibault's friends would again demonstrate their concern for troubled youth by donating the final \$50,000 needed to complete Sherer Hall.

(BULLETIN: At press time, over \$20,000 in donations towards this additional \$50,000 had already been received by Gibault's Development Office!)



Ground for Sherer Hall is broken by (left to right): Robert Boyer, Chairman of the Sherer Hall Fund Drive, Forrest and Hazel Sherer, long-time Gibault benefactors, Brother Thomas, Gibault's Director, and a future resident of Sherer Hall.



Forrest and Hazel Sherer stand alongside the artist's rendition of the building that will bear their names. Forrest is the Chairman of Gibault's Development Council.

## SPECIAL OLYMPIANS IMPRESS OUR BOYS

Several Gibault boys were among hundreds of volunteers who helped make this year's Indiana Special Olympics a big success. Besides helping with some of the Olympic events, our boys also operated four game booths during the carnival held on the first evening of the three day meet.

Our boys were deeply moved by the courage and enthusiasm of the 2,700 mentally retarded and developmentally disabled athletes who participated in this year's Olympics at Indiana State University. It was a good learning experience for all.



A Gibault boy, wearing one of our new softball uniforms, speaks words of encouragement to a Special Olympian.



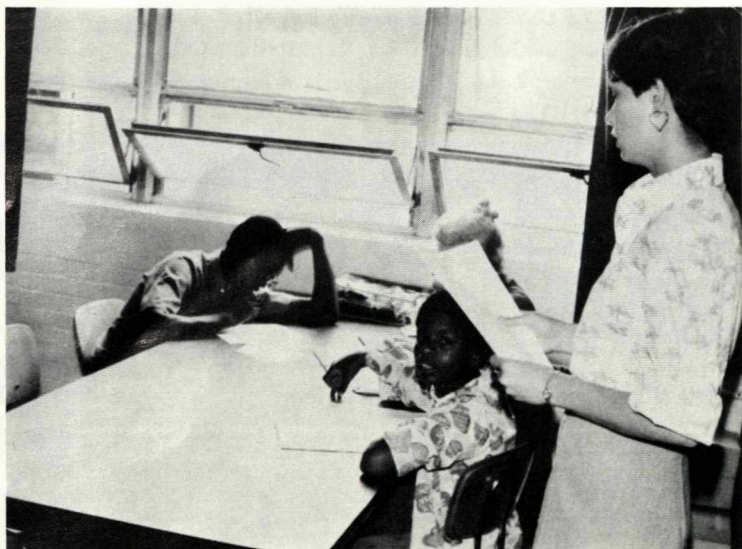
## SUMMER SCHOOL AT GIBALT

Gibault School's educational program operates year-round. During the hot summer months, however, classes are held only in the mornings. Our summer school is comprised of two 5-week sessions during which an attempt is made to offer our boys a few special elective courses not usually taught during the regular academic year. In the past, these special electives have included such things as electronics, small engine repair, special field trips, and small group music lessons.

One thing that does **not** change during our summer school schedule is the heavy emphasis on the basic three R's. Reading and math are always a major daily part of our boys' educational program, especially for those boys who suffer from learning disabilities. As many of our readers know, untreated learning disabilities and lack of success in school are big contributing factors to delinquent behavior. Even during the summer, Gibault's teachers work hard at helping our boys change their negative attitudes about schoolwork.



Mrs. Pam Engles, summer art teacher, helps the Gibault boys learn the fine points of pottery.



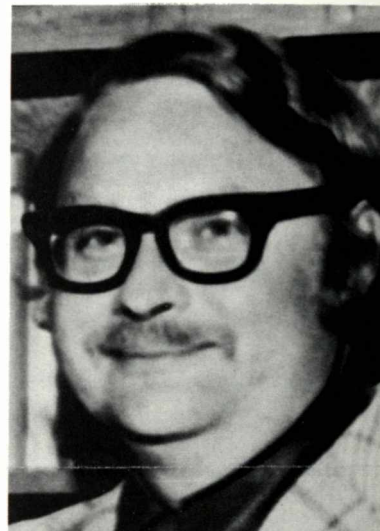
Mrs. LaRue Royer, Special Education teacher, works closely with those boys who have learning disabilities and/or reading problems.

## DIRECTOR'S NOTES

You've already noticed that this **Messenger** is "fatter" than usual. The reason is simple: we've had a lot of excitement here recently and want to share it with you.

I also want to welcome a few new friends to our readership. Some of you are seeing the **Messenger** for the first time. I hope all of you, new and old friends alike, enjoy reading about our boys.

The single most frequent question asked about Gibault School is: "How many of your boys do you actually help?" Since we have printed a message on page 5 from one of our boys who didn't "make it", I think this is a good time to write about our "success rate".



Brother Thomas Balthazor, CSC, Executive Director.

Over a year ago one of our Social Services staff members began a regular, systematic follow-up of all boys who have been at Gibault School (before then, our follow-up was "hit or miss" at best). Much to our surprise, he is finding that about 60% of our former students are now doing much better in their homes, schools, and communities than before their year at Gibault.

Considering the severe nature of the problems of our boys, we are very encouraged by these findings. Yet we still realize, as you will see on page 5, that we are not "winning them all." We know in our heads that we will never reach 100% success. But I can assure you, dear friends, that we will never stop striving for that goal in our hearts!!

*Br. Thomas*

## BEQUESTS

Most of Gibault's closest friends are unable to make single large donations to help our boys. But everyone should have a will, and as you draw up or update your will, please consider our boys and their needs. The following are three examples of ways to include Gibault School in a typical will:

"I give, devise, and bequeath to Gibault School for Boys, Terre Haute, Indiana, \_\_\_\_\_ percent of my estate to be used by its directors and administration in carrying out its corporate purposes and objectives."

OR

"I give, devise and bequeath to Gibault School for Boys, Terre Haute, Indiana, the sum of \$\_\_\_\_\_ to be used by its directors and administration in carrying out its corporate objectives and purposes."

OR

"I give, devise and bequeath to Gibault School for Boys, Terre Haute, Indiana, the following described real or personal property to be used by its directors and administration in carrying out its corporate objectives and purposes."

OR

"All the residue of my estate, including real and personal property, I give, devise and bequeath to Gibault School for Boys, Terre Haute, Indiana". (These forms are suggestions. Legal forms should always be prepared by your attorney.)

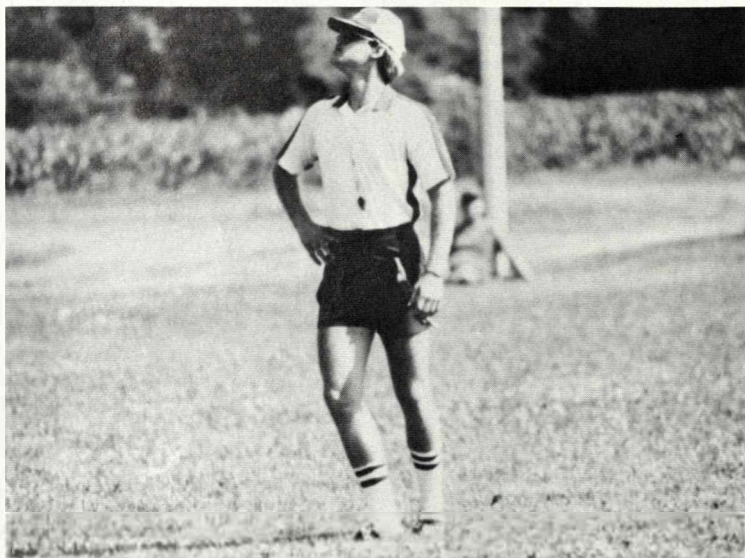


## OUR SOFTBALL ALL-STARS

The best players from Gibault's intramural softball teams recently played in our first All Star game with the best players from the Rockville Training Center. Spurred on by new uniforms provided by Ron Carpenter, Gibault's Athletic Director, our boys played very well and won by a score of 12 to 4.



Another run for Gibault!



Ron Carpenter, Gibault's Athletic Director, isn't too happy about an error.



Our happy All Stars in their new uniforms.

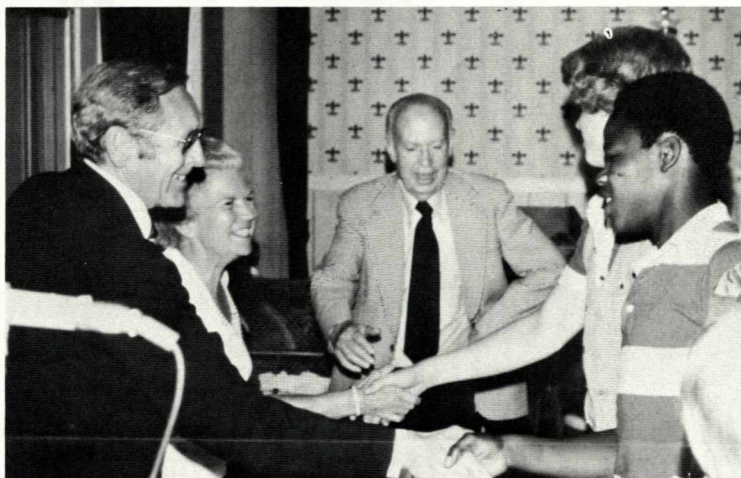
## THE EXTRA MILE AWARD

Each year, on the day following the Indianapolis 500 Mile race, Fatima Knights of Columbus Council (Indianapolis) is host for the Extra Mile Award Dinner. This special award is given to one of the Indy race drivers who has displayed exceptional courage and humanitarianism at the Speedway during the month of May. His "prizes" include a special plaque and a check for \$1,000.

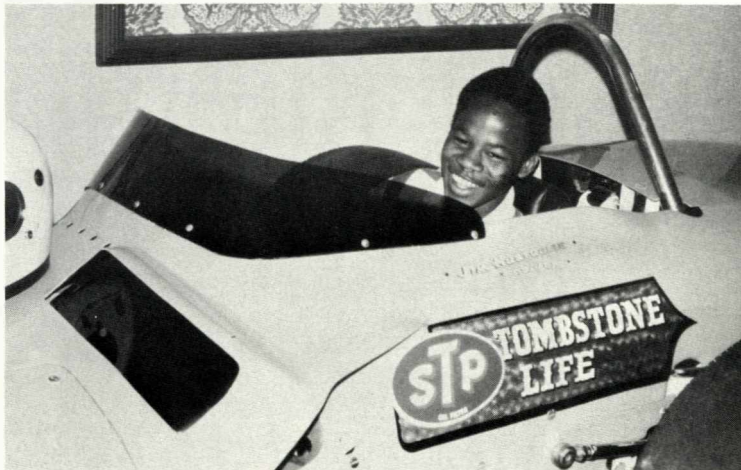
At the same dinner, one of the boys of Gibault School is also singled out for having made the most significant improvement during his stay at Gibault School. His prize is the helmet of the Extra Mile Award winning driver.



Jim McElreath (center, with plaque), this year's Extra Mile Indy driver, joins Gibault's Extra Mile nominees.



Mr. Joseph Cloutier (left), President of the Indianapolis Motor Speedway and business partner of the late Tony Hulman, greets Gibault's Extra Mile nominees.



This happy young man is the winner of this year's Gibault Extra Mile Award. His prize is the helmet partially pictured at the left.



## ANNUAL TALENT SHOW

One of our most popular special events is the annual Talent Show. Both boys and staff members work hard to prepare some very entertaining acts, and this year's fare was as good as ever.

The theme of this year's program was "Gibault's Gong Show". Strangely, however, the only acts to be "gonged" were some rather unusual skits prepared by a few of our staff members.



A miniature "Incredible Hulk" (left) has trouble keeping a straight face during this humorous skit.



The 7-year-old daughter of one of Gibault's cooks brought down the house with her imitation of country singer Dolly Parton.



This young man's instrumental solo was chosen as the "Best Act" of this year's Talent Show.

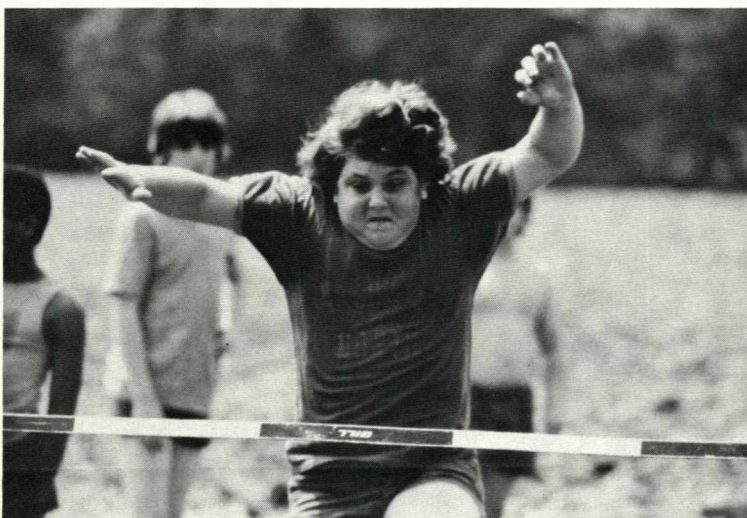
## ANNUAL TRACK MEET

During the final week of the regular academic year, an afternoon is set aside for Gibault's annual Track Meet. Each boy is encouraged to participate in several of the track and field events offered.

The meet gives all of our boys a chance to display their individual talents. Prize ribbons are awarded for the first four places in each event. Needless to say, competition is fierce as each boy strains every muscle for the coveted first place ribbon.



This young man seems to have lost all of his competition as he reaches the 100-yard-dash finish line.



The proper facial contortion can be helpful in throwing oneself over the high jump bar!



Weary young athletes await the call for their next events.



## MESSAGE FROM A FORMER GIBALT BOY

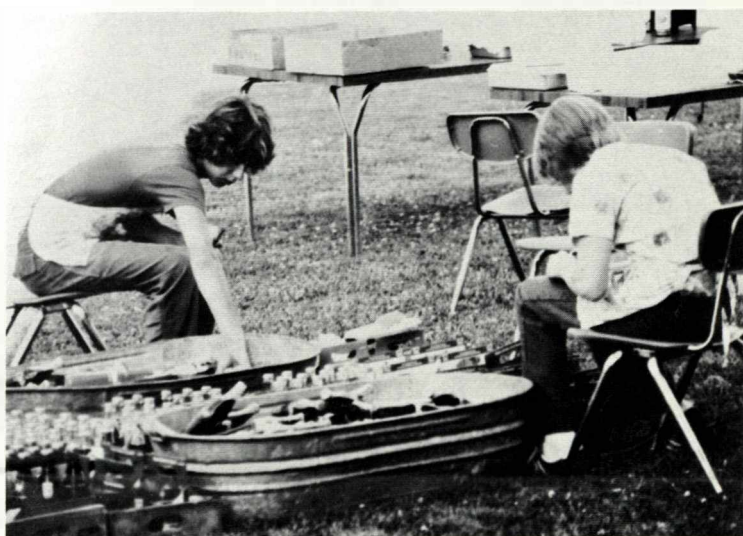
**Note:** One of our staff members recently received a very sad letter from a former Gibault boy who has been sentenced to the Joliet, Illinois, Federal Penitentiary. He asked that the following message be printed in our Messenger so that the boys who are presently at Gibault School may read it and not meet the same fate as his.

"I'm D.M., and I was at Gibault for a year and a half. When I was there I didn't really take advantage of all the things you can learn and do there. That's why I'm sitting here in a maximum penitentiary wasting some more of my life away. I'm doing a one-to-three (years for) burglary. But I'm trying to tell you that crime is not the thing for you or me to be doing."

"You might think you're cool if you are out there smoking and stealing, etc. But take advantage of what you can get right now, your education. Make a good plan for what you are going to do when you get out. And you can even get right with God. I'm not yet, but I plan to."

"Thank you for reading this. A lot of your buddies might say I don't know what I'm talking about, or that I'm crazy. But those are the ones that will be in a place like I'm in. You can get my address from (the staff) if you wish to write and find out about this place so you will not come - because it's hell in here!"

Sincerely,  
D.M.



During the summer months, the Sunday evening meal is always an outdoor picnic. These boys have the coveted job of preparing and dispensing the soft drinks for one of the Sunday evening picnics.

You can honor a departed friend or loved one and at the same time help Gibault help troubled boys. Consider a Memorial Gift to Gibault the next time you need to express respect for someone who has passed away or sympathy to the bereaved family.

## IN LOVING MEMORY

Since the last issue of **The Messenger** the following people have been honored by Memorial Gifts to the boys of Gibault School:

MARGARET WIGGS  
Dr. & Mrs. Robert C. Reed

MRS. ISAACS  
Mr. & Mrs. Richard Luther

JANICE ANSTY  
John C. Taylor

FRANK BROSKI  
Kenneth Cudnik

WANDA HAMMOND  
Dr. & Mrs. Robert C. Reed

ROBBY SEIB  
Justin & Shirley Clements

URBAN THOMAS  
Mrs. Allie G. Thomas

MARY FRANCES NICHOLS  
Mr. & Mrs. Robert F. Gardner

FRANK BERKEMEIER  
Greensburg K of C Council 1042

ALBERT VOGEL  
K of C Columbians - Council 437

ANTHONY S. JOUSKEY  
Mr. & Mrs. Lawrence P. McFadden

GREGORY SWIECZKOWSKI  
Stanley Swieczkowski

JOHN STOESSER  
Mrs. O. J. Stoesser

EDWIN THOMPSON  
Mrs. John W. Moorhead

CAS WOOLDRIGE  
Mr. & Mrs. Clem J. Leniski

MRS. ANN MCGINLEY  
The Staff of Gibault School  
Raymond J. Guntz

EDWARD J. KUNKLER  
Dr. & Mrs. Robert C. Reed

EDWARD J. DOWD  
The Erin Patrick Family

ANTHONY G. LANNERT  
Mr. & Mrs. Herbert May

JACOB BROWN  
Mr. & Mrs. Herbert May

LOUISE MORGAN  
Mr. & Mrs. Herbert May

MARY DONAHUE  
Shirley & Justin Clements

EDWARD WISNIEWSKI  
Mr. & Mrs. Ken Campbell  
Richard Luther Family

MARY CASSELMANN  
Erica & Helmut Labrentz

DRS. CHARLES & ROBERT ARMINGTON  
Joseph J. Flanagan

LEONA BAUCH  
Basil Bauch Family

A Memorial Gift is a special way to show your respect and love for a departed friend or loved one. An attractive acknowledgement card is sent to the bereaved family on the same day we receive your gift. The amount of the gift is never mentioned. The completed form printed below should be included with your gift.

## A LIVING MEMORIAL

Renew The Life That Is  
Finished By Touching  
The Life Of A Troubled  
Boy.

AMT. \$

Given by Mr.  
Mrs.  
Miss

Name

Street/Box/RFD

City

State

Zip

In Memory of

Name of Deceased

City

Send Cards To:

MAIL TO: GIBALT SCHOOL, 5901 DIXIE BEE ROAD, TERRE HAUTE, IN 47802

— YOUR GIFT IS TAX DEDUCTIBLE —

PLEASE SEND ME ADDITIONAL MEMORIAL FORMS: ☐ Pad of 5 ☐ Pad of 10



# CHARTRAND HALL DISAPPEARS

Follow the arrows and watch Chartrand Hall disappear. The old, unsafe building had to be removed so that Sherer Hall could be built on the same site.



## THE MESSENGER

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